

## Laser Surgery and Intense Pulsed Light Therapy Position Statement

The Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure adopts the position that the revision, destruction, incision or other structural alteration of human tissue is the practice of medicine.

Because laser surgery and intense pulsed light therapy involve the revision, destruction, incision, and removal of human tissue, laser and intense pulsed light therapy should be performed only by individuals licensed to practice medicine.

A physician with appropriate specific training in acceptable laser surgery and intense pulsed light therapy may delegate certain procedures to certified or licensed non-physicians in compliance with appropriate statutes and regulations. The physician must supervise the non-physician to protect the best interests and welfare of each patient. The physician must direct the course of the patient's treatment and must supervise the person performing the procedure.

A physician may delegate certain procedures to certified or licensed non-physician in compliance with appropriate statutes and regulations. The physician must supervise the non-physician to protect the best interests and welfare of each patient.

- The supervising physician shall be physically present on- site, immediately available, and able to respond promptly to any question or problem that may occur while the procedure is being performed (except Laser Hair Removal)
- It is the physician's obligation to ensure that, with respect to each procedure performed, the non-physician possesses the proper training in cutaneous medicine, the indications for the procedure, and the pre- and post- operative care involved.
- The supervising physician performs and documents an initial assessment prior to treatment and as needed during the course of therapy.
- The non-physician has satisfactorily completed a documented special education and training program on applicable, laser physics, safety, techniques and pre and post operative care and laser safety, which includes supervised practice and clinical skill competency.
- The facility has applicable written policies and procedures.
- Continuing education for these procedures is ongoing and documented.

### Certain Procedures - Specific

- Treatment of vascular irregularities
  - Laser of facial veins
  - Treatment of leg veins by laser
- Treatment of pigmented irregularities
- Treatment of acne
- Treatment of collagen stimulation
- Treatment of microlaser peel
- Treatment of rosacea

### For Laser Hair Reduction

- Treatment of laser hair reduction (off-site treatment may be allowed)

- When physicians are involved with non-physicians in laser hair removal, the following minimum standards must apply.
  1. There must be a responsible physician for each patient undergoing laser hair removal procedures. The responsible physician must be qualified to do the procedure themselves, i.e., appropriately trained in laser physics, safety, techniques and pre and post operative care to perform laser hair removal using the specific device with which the patient is being treated.
  2. Personnel to whom the procedure of laser hair removal is delegated must undergo formal training in order to ensure competence with laser hair removal. All personnel must provide written documentation of the successful completion of the following:
    - a) A didactic laser course that includes instruction in laser safety and the basic principles of laser operation. In addition, they must have documentation of training and education in the safe and effective use of each laser system to be used in the facility.
    - b) Satisfactory completion of a minimum of 30 cases under the direct supervision of the facility's medical director.
  3. All personnel performing these procedures must recognize unexpected, adverse, immediate and delayed reactions to treatment, which should be part of their annual documented competence review by the medical director.

Adopted: June 20, 2002

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